Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 040030-087

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	)
Göran HANSSON et al.	) Group Art Unit: UNASSIGNED
Application No.: UNASSIGNED	) Examiner: UNASSIGNED
Filed: March 9, 2001	)
For: METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT IN A TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM	)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1 - 13 as follows.

1. (Amended) Arrangement (47) in a node (40) of a communication network (30), said node (40) applying a first communication protocol for data transfer on links between nodes in said network and applying a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections in said network having a single access point (471) for at least one link, at least two assigned point-to-point connections (472) to other network nodes supporting said second communication protocol, means (473) for selecting an appropriate and operative one of said assigned point-to-point connections (472), means (474) for monitoring the operability of assigned point-to-point connections (472), means (475) for initiating a reselection of a redundant point-to-point connection (472) in order to replace a point-to-point connection that has been detected to be inoperative.

2. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, having a means (473) for preferably selecting a default point-to-point connection as long as this connection is monitored to be operative.

3. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, having a means (475) for indicating a restriction for the selection of a certain point-to-point connection.

4. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, having a means (475) for indicating operative changes of a link.

5. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, having a means (475) for periodically indicating the status of a link.

6. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said first communication protocol is a TCP/IP protocol and said second communication protocol is an ATM protocol.

7. (Amended) Communication network consisting of a plurality of interconnected nodes whereof a first plurality of said nodes apply a first communication protocol for data transfer on links between nodes in said network and a second plurality of said nodes apply a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections in said network, whereof at least two of said nodes apply both communication protocols, and wherein at least two nodes include the arrangement according to claim 1.

8. (Amended) Method for data transmission according to a first communication protocol in at least two nodes (31,32) of a communication network (30) consisting of a plurality of interconnected nodes, said nodes applying in said network a first communication protocol for data

transfer on links between nodes and a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections, assigning at least two point-to-point connections as part of a link for data transmission, selecting (63) an appropriate and operative one of said assigned point-to-point connections, monitoring (65) the operability of assigned point-to-point connections, reselecting (63) a redundant point-to-point connection in order to replace a point-to-point connection that has been detected to be inoperative (66).

9. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, selecting (62) a default point-to-point connection as long as this connection is monitored to be operative.

10. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, indicating a restriction for assignment of certain point-to-point connections.

11. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, indicating (64) operative changes of a link.

12. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, indicating (64) the status of a link at periodical times.

13. (Amended) Method in a communication network, said network consisting of a plurality of interconnected nodes whereof a first plurality of said nodes apply a first communication protocol for data transfer on links between nodes in said network and a second plurality of said nodes apply a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections in said network, whereof at least two of said nodes apply both communication protocols, having at least two nodes performing the method according to claim 8.

REMARKS

The above changes to the claims have been made to delete multiple dependency of the claims, to round out the scope of patent protection being sought, and generally to place the claims in better condition for examination on the merits. These changes have been made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as amended on November 7, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: _____
Steven M. duBois
Registration No. 35,023

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: March 9, 2001

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated March 9, 2001

Marked-up Claims 1 - 13

1. (Amended) Arrangement (47) in a node (40) of a communication network (30), said node (40) applying a first communication protocol for data transfer on links between nodes in said network and applying a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections in said network [, characterised in] having a single access point (471) for at least one link, at least two assigned point-to-point connections (472) to other network nodes supporting said second communication protocol, means (473) for selecting an appropriate and operative one of said assigned point-to-point connections (472), means (474) for monitoring the operability of assigned point-to-point connections (472), means (475) for initiating a reselection of a redundant point-to-point connection (472) in order to replace a point-to-point connection that has been detected to be inoperative.

2. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, [characterised in] having a means (473) for preferably selecting a default point-to-point connection as long as this connection is monitored to be operative.

3. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, having a [claim 1 or 2, characterised in] means (475) for indicating a restriction for the selection of a certain point-to-point connection.

4. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, having a [one of claims 1-3, characterised in] means (475) for indicating operative changes of a link.

5. (Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, having a [one of claims 1-3, characterised in] means (475) for periodically indicating the status of a link.

6. (Amended) Arrangement according to [one of claims 1 - 5, characterised in] claim 1, wherein said first communication protocol is a TCP/IP protocol and said second communication protocol is an ATM protocol.

7. (Amended) Communication network consisting of a plurality of interconnected nodes whereof a first plurality of said nodes apply a first communication protocol for data transfer on links between nodes in said network and a second plurality of said nodes apply a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections in said network, whereof at least two of said nodes apply both communication protocols, [characterised in said] and wherein at least two nodes [including] include the arrangement according to claim 1 [one of claims 1-6].

8. (Amended) Method for data transmission according to a first communication protocol in at least two nodes (31,32) of a communication network (30) consisting of a plurality of interconnected nodes, said nodes applying in said network a first communication protocol for data transfer on links between nodes and a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections, [characterised in] assigning at least two point-to-point connections as part of a link for data transmission, selecting (63) an appropriate and operative one of said assigned point-to-point connections, monitoring (65) the operability of assigned point-to-point connections, reselecting (63) a redundant point-to-point connection in order to replace a point-to-point connection that has been detected to be inoperative (66).

9. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, [characterised in] selecting (62) a default point-to-point connection as long as this connection is monitored to be operative.

10. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, [claim 8 or 9, characterised in] indicating a restriction for assignment of certain point-to-point connections.

11. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, [one of claims 8-10, characterised in] indicating (64) operative changes of a link.

12. (Amended) Method according to claim 8, [one of claims 8-10, characterised in] indicating (64) the status of a link at periodical times.

13. (Amended) Method in a communication network, said network consisting of a plurality of interconnected nodes whereof a first plurality of said nodes apply a first communication protocol for data transfer on links between nodes in said network and a second plurality of said nodes apply a second communication protocol for data transfer on point-to-point connections in said network, whereof at least two of said nodes apply both communication protocols, [characterised in said] having at least two nodes performing the method according to claim 8 [one of claims 8-12].